Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: What about the Evidence Act?

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai: There is a law relating to evidence in force in our State. Our courts are administering the law relating to evidence.

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: I second the motion.

The question that the Travancore Bankers' Books Evidence Bill as passed by the Sri Mulam Assembly be taken into consideration was put and carried.

The Bill was taken into consideration.

President: The question is whether clauses 1 to 7 stand part of the Bill.

The question was voted and clauses 1 to 7 were added to the Bill.

The question whether the Preamble and Title do stand part of the Bill was next put to vote and carried.

The Preamble and Title were added to the Bill.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai: Sir, I move that the Travancore Bankers' Books Evidence Bill be passed.

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: I second it.

The motion that the Travancore Bankers' Books Evidence Bill be passed was put and carried.

The Bill was passed.

The Travancore Reformatory Schools Act (Amendment) Bill.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai: Sir, I move that the Travancore Reformatory Schools Act (Amendment) Bill as passed by the Sri Mulam Assembly be taken into consideration.

This is only for the purpose of amending the existing Reformatory Schools Act with the object of conferring power on Government to frame rules for the purpose stated therein. At present, the young convicts of the Reformatory School are not allowed to leave the premises on short leave or short vacation. The rule elsewhere is different, that is, in British India and other places. There, the principle is that they ought not to be treated as mere convicts, but should only be put under some restraint and should be enabled to live a better life. It was suggested that the inmates of the school should be given freedom to avail themselves of occasional leave from the Reformatory School under the control either of the parents who are willing to guarantee their good behaviour or under the supervision and control of officers of Government who will be nominated for that purpose. This Bill is merely to enable Government to frame rules for the purpose.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai: I second it.

The question that the Bill be taken into consideration was put to vote and carried. The Bill was taken into consideration.

The question that clauses 1 and 2 stand part of the Bill was put to vote and carried.

Clauses 1 and 2 were added to the Bill.

The question that the Preamble and the Title stand part of the Bill was put and carried.

The Preamble and the Title were added to the Bill.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai: Sir, I move that the Travancore Reformatory Schools Act (Amendment) Bill be passed.

The motion was accepted by the House and the Bill was passed.

THE TRAVANCORE CENSUS BILL.

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai: Sir, I move that the Travancore Census Bill as passed by the Sri Mulam Assembly be taken into consideration.

Sir, it corresponds to the last Census Act which was in force when the last Census was taken. A new census is proposed to be taken in 1941. Certain preliminary steps have been taken and a Commissioner has been appointed. It is necessary that he should be armed with the requisite powers for proceeding vigorously with the work. The only difference between this Bill and the previous Act is in respect of the penalty that is provided for in this. Whereas an offence committed under the provisions of the previous Act was liable to be punished with a fine of Rs. 50, a penalty of Rs. 200 is proposed under the present Act and slight verbal alterations have been made here and there for bringing out the purpose and intention of the law clearly. I move that the Bill be taken into consideration.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Sir, will this Act be useful for future Census also?

Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai: Sir, the question whether we cannot have a permanent Statute for all Census to come has been raised. It has been found that Census is only a temporary matter. Census was being taken every ten years. There is no statutory obligation that a Census shall be taken every ten years. It may be taken in fifteen years or even much earlier than that.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly